

Appl. No. 10/788,749
Amtr. Dated: Dec. 12, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 13, 2005

REMARKS

Amendments to Claims

Claims 1, 10, and 12 have been amended to more explicitly and correctly express the present invention. Claims 1-12 remain pending in the application.

Claim Objections

Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- Is the claim directed to a method or apparatus?

Appropriate correction is required.

In response to the objection, Applicant has amended claim 12 to direct to a method in order to overcome the objection. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 12, as amended, is now in allowable form.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 2, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Love (US 6,757,424).

In response to the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 12, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 12 and otherwise respectfully traverses the rejection thereof. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, and 12 are allowable over Love.

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Amended claim 1 recites, in part:

A measuring method for dots of a pattern distributed on a light guide plate uniform, comprising the steps of:

defining an x-y coordinate system according to the dots; . . .

calculating an area density of the dots; . . .

(Emphasis added.)

Applicant submits that such a measuring method, as set forth in amended claim 1, is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Love or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

In Love, as indicated by its title, what is actually disclosed is a "method for conducting analysis of two-dimensional images". The two-dimensional images generally include handwriting samples, fingerprints, ballistics patterns, and DNA patterns, etc. (column 1, lines 24-26). However, Love neither teaches nor suggests that the method thereof could be extended to measure area density of the dots of a pattern distributed on a light guide plate. Furthermore, the method in Love uses gray-scale density variations of the image to calculate a third axis, which is used to produce a virtual 3-dimensional image for quantitative and qualitative analysis (column 1, lines 15-18). So, in order to represent 3-dimensional space, an X-Y-Z coordinate system is necessary in the method in Love (column 8, lines 43-44). As such, modifying Love to instead use an X-Y coordinate system instead of the X-Y-Z system would surely represent a change in principle of operation of Love and would probably qualify as rendering Love unsatisfactory for its intended purpose of producing a 3-D image for analysis. Thus, based upon the case law presented in MPEP §2143.01, Applicant

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submits that it would not have been obvious to modify Love to instead use an X-Y coordinate system, as set forth in claim 1, as amended. In addition, the "600 dpi" only is a resolution of scanners used for scanning the two-dimensional images and reading the data file (column 7, lines 57-59, 64-65; column 8, lines 15-17), and the "600 dpi" has nothing to do with the "area density of the dots" in the present measuring method of claim 1. As such, Love fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of the measuring method for dots of a pattern distributed on a light guide plate, as set forth by amended claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Love, taken alone or in combination with any of the other cited references, does not anticipate or otherwise render obvious the limitations in amended claim 1 of the present measuring method. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of amended claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 directly depends from independent claim 1 and therefore should also be allowable.

In response to the rejection of claim 12, Applicant submits that claim 12, as amended, recites limitations similar to those of Claim 1. For reasons similar to those asserted above in relation to Claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 12, as amended, should also be allowable.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Love in view of Rylander (US 5,258,832).

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In response to the rejections of claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10, and 11, Applicant respectfully indicates that claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10, and 11 directly or indirectly depend from independent claim 1, which is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Applicant accordingly submits that claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10, and 11 therefore should also be allowable.

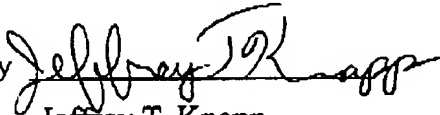
Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 6 and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, for which courtesy the Examiner is thanked. Applicant has respectfully chosen not to rewrite claims 6 and 9 in independent form at this juncture in prosecution. Applicant instead submits that since dependent claims 6 and 9 depend from now allowable independent claim 1, such claims should therefore be allowable in their current form.

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In view of the foregoing, the present application as claimed in the pending claims is considered to be in a condition for allowance, and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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